

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Christopher Martin, and Laurie Colgan; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors Gianna Petito (WNRCD); Conservation Commission members Anne Reed, Anne Miller, Bob Popp, and Taber Alison; Arthur Gilman

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: none

Public Comment: none

Review and Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the minutes of the November 19, 2019 meeting.

Emerald Ash Borer: Gianna Petito is the manager of the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District. She explained that the WNRCD promotes the wise use, development, and conservation of natural resources. She came to talk to the Board today about the Town's activities related to Emerald Ash Borer. Anne Reed, chair of the Marshfield Conservation Commission, explained that EAB has been found in Marshfield, and the Conservation Commission has discussed conducting an ash tree inventory. Rich Baker noted that the Resilient Rights of Way project noted some roadside ash trees but did not do a full inventory. Gianna explained that there are grants available to conduct inventories. She is exploring the possibility of the WNRCD applying for a grant to do the inventories in several towns. They have summer interns that could help with data collection and they could work with local conservation commissions and the town to develop an EAB response plan. There would be a cash match required from the town, between \$750 and \$1,000. Rich Baker asked how the inventory would be conducted on private land. Gianna explained that since the town will not be able to completely eradicate EAB, the inventory would be conducted for the purpose of hazard mitigation, so it would only look at trees that would affect town roads and public properties. She would like the town to let her know if Marshfield wants to be part of the grant. The Conservation Commission meets tomorrow and they will discuss whether they want to do the inventory themselves or participate with WNRCD and neighboring towns. The Conservation Commission will report back to the Selectboard on December 17th. The Board and the Commission members discussed what the response should be when we have the inventory. Bob Popp noted that it is believed that some ash trees may be resistant to EAB, but if all ash trees are cut, that resistance will be lost.

Radon: The Board discussed the quotes that have been received for different options to deal with the radon in the building. Laurie moved to accept the quote from Memphremagog Heat Exchangers, in the amount of \$3,921.40 each for 4 air exchange units. Rich seconded – all in favor.

Village Lease: The Board approved adding a phrase to the lease to make it clear that the town will

provide radon remediation. The change to the lease was requested by the Village Trustees. The floor in the Village Clerk's Office is currently painted rough concrete. The Board discussed putting carpet in the office, and in the Sunwise office. The Board will get two quotes.

Sidewalks: Chris moved to accept the bid from Matt Destino for \$125 per visit. Rich seconded – all in favor.

Computers: Bobbi informed the Selectboard that the support costs for the town software has increased from \$500 to \$1,500, to cover new requirements from the State. The Selectboard approved the purchase of a firewall for the town office.

Budgets: The Selectboard reviewed the personnel, fire department, highway, and zoning budgets.

Executive Session: At 7:45, Laurie moved to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Chris seconded – all in favor. The Board returned to open session at 8:40.

Personnel: Chris moved to give Scott Ciampi a 75¢ raise effective immediately. Rich seconded – all in favor. Rich moved to give town employees a 2% raise effective January 1st. Chris seconded – all in favor.

Vacancies: The Board received notices that two library trustees have resigned, Joan Caron and Jennifer Barlow. Jennifer has moved out of town.

Cows: The Town received a complaint that the Leibold cows were out over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Library: The exit door is blocked with snow. When the snow slides off the roof, it packs and it can't be shoveled. The Board discussed whether or not an exit door is needed there. Chris will ask the Fire Marshall.

Cemeteries: The Board approved a proposal from Mike Baril to remove some trees and trim some trees in New Discovery Cemetery, as recommended in the Tree Risk Assessment. The Board signed deeds for lots purchased by Lynn and Caleb Kennison, Mary Wells and Hannah and Elizabeth Newton, Daniel Wright, and Jill and Gary Wilson.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the December 3, 2019 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
